

THE LEDGER.

R. M. WHITE, Editor and Proprietor.
THURSDAY, NOV. 21, 1889.

THE LEDGER FREE.

We will send the LEDGER free the rest of 1889 to new subscribers who pay in advance for the year 1890. The Mexico Weekly Ledger, the best country weekly in the State, from now until January 1, 1891, for \$1.50.

The officers are hard at work on all the clues connected with the Collins murder.

Col. Barker, of Wellsville, made a strong speech for the State in the Dusenberry case.

Those who want Mexico to come to the front will have a chance in a day or so to do something more than talk.

Col. Terry, late of the Mexico Patriot, is superintendent of the Guthrie, Oklahoma, public schools with ten teachers and 500 pupils.

The motion for a new trial in the Dusenberry case will be argued at the January term of court. The defense thinks it will surely get a new trial.

The Franklin County Observer is to be bought by Democrats and will be made the party organ. If the Democrats of that county will organize and support their paper liberally, Franklin will go Democratic at the next election.

THE MEXICO WEEKLY LEDGER this week will be more extensively circulated and largely read than any other county paper in the State. In addition to our regular edition of nearly 3,000 a special edition, for Montgomery county, containing a full account of the Dusenberry trial and the Collins murder, will be printed. At least five hundred copies of this edition are spoken for in advance. The people in this part of the State know where to find the news.

Our worthy contemporary, the *Intelligencer*, had a "geminy fit" a few days since and severely condemned a newspaper which presumed to try a case in advance of the courts. We wonder what the editor of the paper above referred to now thinks, after reading his argument and one-sided trial of the Collins murder case in his Monday's paper. "Consistency, then art a jewel," and our contemporary may be characterized, in this instance, as a casket full of jewels.

If E. A. Collins, of near Rush Hill, was murdered for the purpose of robbery, we fail to see the object of the murderer in killing him, as all there was in the house of value had been secured without awakening any of the household and before the fatal shot was fired. Why, then, did the murderer, after he had accomplished his object without disturbing anyone, lean over Mrs. Collins and kill her husband, thus laying himself liable to capture and death for murder at the hands of the hangman?

The western counties of Missouri by the census of 1880 had a population of 1,078,997. The present estimated population of these counties is 1,617,705. This shows a gain of over a half million in nine years, the exact number being 538,708. Or, to show more forcibly the immense growth, the sixty western counties of Missouri lack only 45,575 to make them equal to the whole population of Missouri in 1880. If the same ratio of growth has been maintained in the eastern half of the State its population in 1880 will be largely in excess of three millions.

The "Monks Shoe Manufacturing Co." is the latest addition to the large factories of St. Louis. The officers of the company are W. H. Monks, president, S. V. Monks, secretary, and Edward Rines, formerly of this city, treasurer. The company employs fifty skilled workmen and turns out 300 pairs of shoes per day. The factory is situated at Nos. 404 and 406 Elm street, and is furnished with all the latest machinery and contrivances known to the trade. The firm has a number of travelling men on the road. The Ledger wishes Mr. Rines success in his new venture.

Was Not Jerry Casey.
To the Editor of the Ledger.
Mexico, Mo., Nov. 20.—I desire to state, through your paper, that it was not myself who shouted in Court, at the Dusenberry trial, to "hang the s— of a b—!" as reported in the Mexico *Intelligencer*. I have been at home sick for the past five weeks and was not inside the Court House during the trial. I have always been a law-abiding citizen and was never fined a dollar in my life. Please make the matter right for me. JERRY CASEY.

Protracted Meeting Closed.
To the Editor of the Ledger.
Mexico, Mo., Nov. 20.—The protracted meeting at "Rising Sun" Christian Church closed Tuesday night with twenty-four additions. Twenty-three were immersed. Our County Evangelist, W. D. Conner, of Paris, Mo., did most of the preaching and he did his work nobly. I most cordially commend him and his self-sacrificing toils to the church everywhere. Although a comparative stranger, he has won his way to our hearts by his pulpit power and diversity of talent and successful methods in winning souls to Christ.
D. M. GRANDFIELD.

A MIDNIGHT MURDER.

E. A. Collins, a Farmer, Killed Near Rush Hill.

HE IS SHOT WHILE SLEEPING BY THE SIDE OF HIS WIFE.

Robbery Supposed to Have Been the Motive for the Deed—Only a Small Sum Secured.

WARRANTS SWORN OUT FOR THE ARREST OF THE WHOLE FAMILY.

The Bullet Passes Through Collins' Head, From One Temple to the Other, Producing Instant Death—Murdered on His 55th Birthday.

At about 2:30 o'clock Sunday morning E. A. Collins, a well-to-do and prosperous farmer and stock man, who lived one mile southeast of Rush Hill, in this county, was murdered in his bed while asleep, being shot through the head with a No. 32 pistol ball. The weapon from which the ball was fired is supposed to have been taken from the pocket of one of the murdered man's sons who was sleeping in the front room upstairs. The wife of Collins was the first to alarm the household. She says she was sleeping by the side of her husband, he being behind and she on the front part of the bed, and she was awakened by a loud noise as though a door had been closed with a slam or a shot had been fired. In a dazed condition she was aroused from her slumber to find that her husband was lying by her side dead. On examination of the body it was found that the bullet entered the temple, near the right ear, and came out on the other side of the head. Collins was lying on his back when the shot was fired, and the person who did the terrible deed must have leaned over the sleeping form of Mrs. Collins and placed the muzzle of the pistol in close proximity to Collins' head, as his face and hair were powder-burned. He died instantly and never knew what killed him, as he was sleeping soundly when the leaden missile struck him. Collins was murdered on the 55th anniversary of his birth. The murder was no doubt committed for the purpose of robbery, as a watch and \$45 were taken from Collins' clothes which were near the head of the bed.

Reporters for the LEDGER went to Rush Hill Sunday and found the people in a high state of excitement. Many different theories are advanced, but the most plausible one is, that robbery was the motive. Many persons have various opinions. Some think it was done to obtain money while others have decided an opposite opinion.

WHAT MRS. COLLINS SAYS.
Mrs. Collins says she was sleeping on the front portion of the bed with her husband in a room down stairs. A daughter was in the next room to her, also down stairs, and two sons, aged 16 and 20 years, were sleeping together upstairs. The family all retired before 10 o'clock. In the spare room, down stairs, there was a lounge on which was a pillow. In this room Mrs. Collins says she saw a light about midnight, when she happened to awaken, but thinking it might be one of the children she dropped off to sleep again, and about half-past 2 o'clock she was a second time awakened by a loud noise resembling the slamming of a door or the report of a pistol shot. Just at this moment she thought she heard footsteps as though some one was running from the house. Mrs. Collins then aroused the household and, upon investigation, she found her husband lying on his back in bed with a ghastly bullet hole clear through his head, from one temple to the other. The house bore evidences of having been ransacked and turned upside down, as though some one had been searching for something, and it is thought the pistol was taken from her son's clothes while the house was being searched. Mrs. Collins testified before the Coroner's jury that "Mr. Collins went to Laddonia Wednesday and got some money to pay some debts. He went to Rush Hill on Saturday, came home late and then went to Mr. Lee's after supper. He returned from there about 8 o'clock. My son, Charlie, took the pistol with him to Laddonia Saturday. We found two doors open after the murder. I did not see the flash of the pistol. Our family relations were pleasant. Don't know that he had an enemy. Mr. Collins did not talk much about his business affairs. We had no one working about the place except my son-in-law, Perry Kee. He and Mr. Collins got along well together. Mr. Kee left Saturday morning about 9 o'clock for Laddonia. Don't think my husband moved after the shot was fired. I first found where he was shot after the children came into the room. My son Arthur took hold of the shoulder of the body and moved it. I think the head was turned a little to one side." Mrs. Collins also made a statement as to how much money her husband had and what denomination the bills were. She says she saw a suspicious looking character lurking around the premises in the afternoon watching the house, but finally he disappeared and she did not know what became of him.

Mrs. Izzetta Scandland, the daughter, said she was making her home with her father and mother and that her husband was in Kansas City. She said her mother called to her to get up, that her father had been shot. She went through the room where the body of her father was and on upstairs to notify her brothers. She did not stop to look at her father as she went through the room where his body was. There was a light in the room where her father and mother slept, but she did not know whether or not it was their custom to burn a light in the room all night. She never heard any other noise but the report of the pistol shot. Thought she heard her father and mother talking after they retired. She said she thought her mother and father got along well enough together, and that nothing unusual transpired between them the night of the murder, to her knowledge. She did not know that her father had any enemies.

Charles E. Collins, a son, testified, among other things, that he did not think his father had an enemy. His father and mother, he said, sometimes had fuses and his father swore a good deal at her. She would always talk back to him. His mother did not know he carried the pistol.

Arthur Collins, another son, testified substantially as did other members of the family, and said his mother told him his father's money was gone; she also told him his (Arthur's) watch was gone, and his brother Charlie also told him someone had taken his (Charlie's) pistol. Arthur noticed drawers in the writing desk open. Had heard his mother tell Charlie he ought not to carry a pistol. Father and Charlie always got along well together. His mother and father, he said, had had some difficulties, but it had been a good while ago. His father and sister always got along well; he did not know where his sister's husband, Mr. Scandland, is. His sister had been living at her father's 7 or 8 months. Witness thought burglar had killed him.

Perry E. Kee, a son-in-law of deceased, testified before the Coroner's jury that the relations between Collins and wife were pleasant. He never heard of any trouble between them. Kee says he went to Laddonia, when he left Collins' place, and came on to Mexico. Got back from Mexico on the night train between 12 and 2 o'clock. Between 4 and 5 o'clock the same morning he got word of the murder, and went to the house at once. Mrs. Collins, on being recalled by the Coroner, said she did not take hold of the body of her husband and did nothing towards arranging or making up the bed. She left the bed, she says, just as it was when she got out of it and did not make it up afterward or arrange the bed clothes in any manner. A light was burning in the room when she retired and it was left turned down low.

Mrs. Scandland was recalled and stated she did not change the bed clothing or arrange the bed on which her mother slept in any manner, nor did she see it done.

Arthur Collins made a like statement and says when he returned from Rush Hill after a physician had been just as he saw it when his father was murdered.

Charlie Collins testified the bed had not been made up and was like he saw it on coming down stairs into the room when his mother gave the alarm.

When Sheriff Adams arrived at the scene of the murder he made a thorough search of the place but could get no clue at all which would lead to the detection of the murderer. However, the officers are busily engaged investigating the murder in the hope that some light may be thrown upon the mysterious affair.

The Coroner's jury only partially completed its work Sunday and adjourned until Wednesday.

As before stated, there is great excitement at Rush Hill and in the neighborhood where the murder was committed, and there are all kinds of rumors flying or no credence can be attached. The bed upon which Collins was sleeping is made of feathers and we were told that several parties who examined the bed—at the request of the Coroner—said it did not bear evidence of any one having slept on the front part at all. This, of course, is only a matter of opinion, as Mrs. Collins says she occupied the bed with her husband.

We may add here that some two or three years ago Collins was knocked down in his stable and nearly killed, but for some reason the matter was not investigated, as we remember. There was a report abroad that there was trouble in the family and that Mr. and Mrs. Collins' domestic life was not of the serene nature. One of the sons told a LEDGER reporter Sunday that not a word of this report was true.

W. G. Sims, of Rush Hill lodge Anti-Horse Thief Association, was in Mexico on Monday and stated that a meeting of the order at that point was held Sunday when it was determined to take the matter in hand and probe it to the bottom.

Mr. Sims is satisfied that startling disclosures concerning the murder will be made shortly, and that it is only a matter of a short time until the murderer will be in the clutches of the law.

A reliable gentleman who lives at Vandalia, who has known the family for years, and at one time lived in part of the house in this city with the Collins', says he is

certain Collins and his wife always lived peaceably together when he knew them intimately. He has been at the Collins residence many times since the family moved to the farm, dined with them and remained over night, but never saw any signs of unpleasantness among the members of the household. Each seemed pleasant and polite to the other. Collins lived in this city some twenty years ago and drove a team and wagon for a living. The family resided on East Liberty Street in a house built and owned by Collins. This property was finally sold and the land bought near Rush Hill on which Collins was living when killed. Mrs. Collins is a sister to Mrs. Davis, who formerly lived in West Mexico but who, with her husband, moved to Kansas City sometime ago where she has a daughter, Mrs. Hortie Collins (formerly Miss Hortie Davis) living. Many older residents of this city remember the murdered man when he and family lived in Mexico.

The preliminary examination of the Collins family will not come off until after the Coroner's jury in the case gets through. This jury will likely finish to-day or to-morrow. The preliminary examination is set for to-day, but will be postponed for at least a few days until witnesses in the case can be called. The report circulated that the pistol and watch stolen from the Collins residence had been found is without any foundation. There are absolutely no new developments and the officers are at sea in the matter.

Geo. Robertson, attorney-at-law of this city, has been retained as counsel by the Collins family.

FARMERS, take your butter, chickens, eggs, &c., to Ferris & Dixon for good prices. Nov 21-6m

Union Sunday School Lesson.
Following is the Union Sunday School lesson for next Sunday:

1. KING JESUS.
GOLDEN TEXT.—"Wisdom is better than riches."—Prov. 8:11.

LESSON PLAN.
I. The Choice Made, vs. 5-9.
II. The Choice Approved, vs. 10-15.

TIME.—B. C. 1015. Solomon reigned B. C. 1015-975.
PLACES.—Jerusalem; Gibeah, six miles northeast of Jerusalem, where the old tabernacle remained, while the ark was on Mount Zion, in Jerusalem.

OPENING WORDS.
David died, B. C. 1015, after a reign of forty years, 1 Chron. 29:28. Solomon who had been associated with him in the kingdom succeeded him. According to Jewish tradition Solomon was eighteen years old when he ascended the throne. His first measures were directed to the establishment of his authority. Adonijah made a second attempt to usurp the kingly power, and was put to death. Joab and Abiathar were in league with him in the plot. The former was slain, and the latter was degraded from the high priesthood and banished. Beniah became commander-in-chief, and Zadok high priest. Solomon next secured an alliance with Egypt by his marriage with the daughter of Pharaoh. He soon after held a great religious festival at Gibeah. There he had the vision which is the subject of this lesson. Parallel account, 2 Chron. 1:1-13.

G. A. RUFFUM, PRESIDENT.

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Until within the last few years we sold our LUMBER to the dealers, but now sell our stock direct to the consumer through our Retail Yard system. We carry full and complete stocks of LUMBER at all our yards and can make it to your interest to buy of us. Be sure and call before buying.

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A Good Ticket.
From the St. Charles Banner.
Bob White, of the Mexico Ledger, says Cleveland and Francis will make a strong ticket in 1892. The Banner is of the same opinion.

Stock Notes.
W. R. Dunlap, of Jacksonville, Ill., shipped two car loads of Polled Angus cattle to that place last night.

Judge Ross shipped nine car loads of Texas steers to Chicago last night.

Thos. W. Harrison shipped two cars of cattle to St. Louis.

Wallace, Northern & Dowell shipped one car of fine hogs to St. Louis last night.

Mundy & Cauthorn shipped one car of hogs to St. Louis last night.

This is a total of nineteen cars of live stock shipped from this point last night.

Asa Heath shipped four car loads of cattle to St. Louis last night. In driving them across the railroad four steers were struck by a freight engine. Two were killed outright; the others had to be shot. The Welch will probably pay the damages.

Arthur Browning shipped one car of hogs and one of cattle to St. Louis last night.

St. Louis, Nov. 19.—The National Stock Yards, of East St. Louis, furnishes the following quotations:

CATTLE.—The receipts to-day were 4,200 head; the shipments were 700 head. The market was quoted strong. The sales ranged as follows: Choice heavy native steers, \$4.30 to \$4.40; fair to good steers, \$3.30 to \$4.40; butchers' steers, medium to choice, not quoted; stockers and feeders, \$2.10 to \$3.25; Texans, corn-fed, not quoted; grass-fed, not quoted; range steers, at \$2.00 to \$3.10.

HOGS.—The receipts to-day were 6,500 head; the shipments were 3,200. The market was stronger. Sales ranged as follows: Fair to choice heavy, quoted at \$3.70 to \$3.85; packing grades, \$3.60 to \$3.70; medium to prime, not quoted; light, fair to choice, quoted at \$3.65 to \$3.75.

SHEEP AND LAMBS.—The receipts to-day were 1,600 head; the shipments were 300. Market was steady. Fair to choice grades of sheep were quoted at \$3.40 to \$3.70; lambs, not quoted; mixed lots, not quoted.

OF Forty-five Years' Standing.
Rheumatic Syrup Co., Jackson, Mich.
GENTS: For forty-five years I have been afflicted with blood poison, liver and rheumatic difficulties. Part of the time confined to my bed. My blood was badly diseased. Six bottles of Hibbard's Rheumatic Syrup did me more good than all the other medicines I have taken. My friends have used it and in every case it has proven a wonderful remedy. I have known of some wonderful cures of dyspepsia and neuralgia.

Mrs. MARY BIDDLE.
Hibbard's Rheumatic Syrup and Plasters are remedies of great merit. I believe they have no equal in the cure of rheumatism and all blood diseases.

DR. H. RICHARD, Druggist, Mitchellville, Iowa.
For sale by C. R. Gibos.

Fred Cunningham, alias F. C. Carter, the printer, who was tried at the October term of Circuit Court for obtaining \$20 falsely from DeWitt Shoots, has forfeited his bond. Wm. Edmonston, the lawyer, was his surety for \$100, but held collateral in the shape of his watch, medals and \$25 in money. A Mr. Musgrove, of Kansas City, was also on his bond for \$250.

A Scrap of Paper Saves Her Life.
It was just an ordinary scrap of wrapping paper, but it saved her life. She was in the last stage of consumption, told by physicians that she was incurable and could live only a short time; she weighed less than seventy pounds. On a piece of wrapping paper she read of Dr. King's New Discovery, and got a sample bottle; it helped her, she bought a large bottle, it helped her more, bought another and grew better fast, continued its use and is now strong, healthy, rosy, plump, weighing 140 pounds. For further particulars send stamp to W. H. Cole, Druggist, Fort Smith. Trial bottles of this wonderful discovery free at J. F. Llewellyn's drug store.

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IS OFFERING BARGAINS IN

Ladies' and Gent's Furnishing Goods, Clothing,

Hats and Caps, Boots and Shoes,

At Very Low Prices!

Is Now Recognized by Everybody.

We Promise

ST. LOUIS STORE,

S. GOODSTEIN, Prop'r.

One Door South of Roden's Grocery Store.

1869. 1889.

J. F. Llewellyn,

DRUGGIST,

West Side of Public Square,

MEXICO, MO.

1869. 1889.

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SOLE AGENTS

IN AUDRAIN COUNTY

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Celebrated Patterns!

All Patterns in Stock.

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A JOURNAL OF FASHIONS,

Mailed FREE!

To any address, upon application to us.

Sallee & Craddock,

Booksellers, Stationers and Wall Paper Dealers, WEST SIDE OF THE PUBLIC SQUARE, - - - MEXICO, MO.

Big Public Sale OF HORSES

TUESDAY, DEC. 3d.

I WILL SELL at public auction, on the Will Brown farm, situated 12 miles southwest of Mexico and 3 miles Northwest of Hutton and adjoining my old home place on the south, on TUESDAY, DEC. 3, 1889, the following described stock:

40 Head Extra Brood Mares and Young Horses,

Consisting of about twenty-five Mares and Fillies and a lot of nice young Geldings.

1 5-year-old Montrose Stallion.

1 3-year-old Artist Stallion.

3 good work Mules.

4 nice young Hambletonian Mares.

Some good Stock Trags.

Lot of the above named stock is by such noted horses as Hambletonian, Montrose, Artist and Volunteer.

TERMS OF SALE.—Six months time with bankable note at 8 per cent.

C. Ham. Brown.

BOOTS & SHOES

It is not only talk, but a real fact, sustained by the many patrons of the Old Reliable

Boot and Shoe House!

OF

H. FRANK,

That it is money in your pocket to buy your Boots and Shoes at our house.

We Can Suit the Most Fastidious!

Large stock in all grades and every variety.

The house is known for carrying substantial, durable goods and we sell them 10 per cent. cheaper than any house in the country.

CHAS. FRANK.

My son, will be pleased to wait on you. Although quite young he has attained some admirable business qualifications. Give me a call. Don't forget the place.

H. FRANK,

East Side of Public Square.

FARMERS!

FOR 50 MILES AROUND, Take Notice!

—THAT—

G. D. Ferris & Birt Dixon

HAVE GONE INTO THE

Grocery & Queensware

Business just North of the Ledger, where you will find everything in our line at low prices. We pay cash or trade for